

Dear Public Safety and Security Committee Members:

Unfortunately, we are unable to attend the meeting in person today.

We do thank you for providing us the opportunity to submit testimony in advance of your hearing on Gun Violence Prevention. In our opinion, there can be no circumstances where it is more important for a person to own an assault weapon than to try to save the life of a child...NONE.

We respectfully ask that you consider the following:

- 1) Require Universal Background Checks on both Guns and Ammunition
- 2) Institute an Assault Weapons & High Capacity Magazine Ban
- 3) Improve Mental Health Screening and Reporting

We hope and pray that these changes will help prevent further gun deaths. We urge you to pass the Governor's

The American people are speaking loudly and clearly. We expect our local, state and federal government to start protecting our children rather than protecting guns. We expect you to put the interests of public safety ahead of the interests of the gun lobby.

In the words of David Wheeler (father to Benjamin Wheeler who was killed in Newtown) who invoked Thomas Jefferson's inalienable rights of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" from the Declaration of Independence:

"I do not think the composition of that foundational phrase was an accident," he said. "I do not think the order of those important words was haphazard or casual. The liberty of any person to own a military-style assault weapon and a high-capacity magazine and keep them in their home is second to the right of my son to his life."

SECOND.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne & Daniel Hagmann  
Wilton, CT